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COUNTRY	Bulgaria/USSR	**REPORT**	
SUBJECT	Economic Discord Between Bulgaria and the USSR	**DATE DISTR.**	23 October 1956
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SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

1. The Soviet government recently rejected the nomination of Marin Khristov Kralev head of the export division of the Ministry of Foreign Trade, to succeed Dobri Aleksiev as trade counselor in Moscow. Kralev's advocacy of reduced exports to the USSR at various Bulgaro-Soviet conferences, at least until the USSR paid for goods delivered since late 1955, apparently caused the rejection. On 1 June 1956, the Soviet debt to Bulgaria reportedly exceeded 17 million rubles.

2. Export quotas within the scope of CEMA (Council for Mutual Economic Assistance) have intensified the friction between the two countries. When the Bulgarian government learned recently that some of its exports to a Soviet Bloc country had been transferred to the USSR, it requested an investigation. The Soviet government, however, refused an inquiry on the grounds that Bulgarian jurisdiction ceased the moment goods crossed the border.

3. The latter dispute reportedly occasioned Soviet non-participation in the Plovdiv Fair for the first time since 1944, although the official Moscow explanation for the absence was the burden of other exhibitions during the year and the cost of constructing a pavilion.

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